

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-03 SS-20 NSC-07

DRC-01 RSC-01 /058 W

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R 041243Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6539

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1340

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, MA (REPPAS, GEORGE)

SUBJECT: W/W REPPAS

REF: TANANARIVE 1227

1. SUPREME COURT HEARING ANTICIPATED REFTEL WAS NOT HELD. RESPONSE TO EMBASSY INQUIRY THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS THAT HEARING WAS NOT YET ON COURT CALENDAR AND THAT REPPAS' LAWYER WAS MISINFORMED.

2. ONE HOUR CONSULAR VISIT TOOK PLACE ON AUGUST 29, REPPAS APPEARED IN EXTREMELY GOOD SPIRITS. HOWEVER, HE DID EXPRESS CONCERN ABOUT RECEIVING PROPER MEDICATION FOR HIS PROSTATITIS CONDITION (SEPTIL BEING SENT).

3. ACCORDING TO REPPAS, HE WAS CONTACTED BY AN INTER-MEDIARY SENT BY BACOPOULOS. BACOPOULOS PROPOSED A 50-50 SPLIT OF \$250,000 WHICH HE HAD IN GREECE. IN EXCHANGE, ONCE HE RETURNED TO STATES, REPPAS WAS TO AGREE NOT TO PROSECUTE BACOPOULOS. REPPAS INDICATED THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO MAKE ANY ACCOMMODATION WITH BACOPOULOS.

4. REPPAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD GIVEN HIS FAMILY GO AHEAD TO PUBLICIZE "EXTORTION PLOT" IN STATES. HE WAS AWARE THAT THIS ACTION COULD JEOPARDIZE HIS PRISON PRIVILEGES AND POSSIBLY DAMAGE HIS CASE, BUT SAID HE BELIEVES EXTORTION ATTEMPT SHOULD BE EXPOSED AND HE WAS QUITE WILLING TO  
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ACCEPT CONSEQUENCES. HOWEVER, HE ASKED THAT EMBASSY NOTIFY

HIM ONCE STORY IS MADE PUBLIC SO HE COULD BE PREPARED FOR ANY TROUBLE. (EMBASSY WILL AGAIN ATTEMPT DURING NEXT VISIT DISSUADE REPPAS FROM PROPOSED ACTION BECAUSE OF PROBABLE ADVERSE EFFECT ON HIS CASE.)

5. REPPAS ALSO INDICATED IN NOTE TO EMBASSY DATED AUGUST 20 THAT HE FELT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR EMBASSY TO INFORM HIM AND JEFFRIES CONCERNING EFFORTS UNDER WAY ON HIS BEHALF BY DEPARTMENT. DOING SO, REPPAS SAID, WOULD AVOID DEPARTMENT'S WORKING AT CROSS PURPOSES WITH HIM AND JEFFRIES. REPPAS SAID THAT DEPARTMENT NEED NOT BE CONCERNED WITH HIS MORALE SHOULD EFFORTS FAIL AS HE WAS REALISTIC ABOUT HIS SITUATION. (COPY NOTE BEING POUCHED.)

6. NEXT VISIT IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 5.

7. EMBASSY COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES INFORMING REPPAS OF DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS WOULD APPROPRIATE SINCE JEFFRIES INFORMED, AND USEFUL IN DETERRING HIM FROM COURSES OF ACTION HARMFUL HIS CASE. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT REPPAS MAY BE MORE DISAPPOINTED THAN HE IS WILLING TO ADMIT SHOULD THIS NEW APPROACH FAIL BUT THAT REPPAS COULD HANDLE HIS DISAPPOINTMENT. AT PRESENT, BEING KEPT IN DARK IS CLEARLY GNAWING AT HIM.  
MENDENHALL

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## Message Attributes

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